Monika Honeyestewa Miss Indian University of New Mexico Receives Scholarship

Monika Honeyestewa, granddaughter of tribal member Carla and Wil Honeyestewa, was recently chosen as a recipient of the Gathering of Nations Scholarship.



Monika Honeyestewa

Over 60 applications from Native students were received for

Honeyestewa, this 2011 fall semester. Thorough examination of each application was made by the Gathering of Nations, and final decisions of awards was made on the criteria of financial need, GPA and essays about themselves and their academic careers.

Monika is currently a senior in the School of Arts & Sciences, pursuing a degree in Psychology with expected University Honors. Monika's personal and professional goal is to continue her education by earning a Ph.D. in school psychology.

Monika is also the current Miss Indian University of New Mexico. Her ultimate goal as Miss Indian UNM, a student, and a future professional, is to inspire other Native American students to continue to direct attention to higher education so they will be able to help their own respective tribal communities prosper by giving their people a voice.

Monika recently was accepted into the Robert McNair Program, which is a research opportunity project.

Monika's father, Steve Honeyestewa and grandparents plan to have an honor dance for Monika in March 2012 at the community building, details will be provided at a later date.



This Veterans' exhibit was on display at the Sac and Fox National Public Library for the month of November and part of December. Catherine Walker, Historical Researcher for the Sac and Fox National Public Library devotes many hours of time and research into these projects that are displayed at the library. If you haven't had the opportunity to stop by and view these projects, please plan a visit and view history detailed in a special way. Catherine's latest project explores the lives and accomplishments of the Sac and Fox Nation Tribal Princesses: Senior Miss Lyndee Jon McClellan (Wa-Bo-Tha-Quah), Junior Miss Santana June Spang (Kithekwa) and Little Miss Kilee Ryanne Jones (E-Seek-E-Tha-No-Quah). Be sure to stop by and see this new exhibit.



Sac and Fox Nation Social Services Field Dates

A member of the Social Services staff will be available to take applications on:

Wednesdays

9:00 am until 1:00 pm (approx.)

Location: The multi-purpose building at Shawnee

LIHEAP, General Assistance, Emergency General Assistance, Direct Employment, Native Employment Works Programs, if funds are available.

Please call ahead to verify that someone is present.

405-275-1262

If you should need assistance prior to the scheduled dates, please call Social Services at:

1-800-259-3970

Native America's Painkillers

by Dan Cros

Last month the Center Disease Control called prescription painkiller addiction an epidemic in the country, identifying Oklahoma as leading the nation in both the addiction and related deaths. It is only fitting that the battle against such addiction in "Native America" be led by three tribal owned clinics, Absentee Shawnee Counseling OKC; Keetoowah Services, Cherokee Treatment Services, Tulsa; and Quapaw Counseling Services, Miami.

Generally speaking, painkillers prescription opiates. There are 14 Opioid Treatment Programs in Oklahoma certified by the Federal agency SAMHSA CSAT, including the Veterans Hospital in Oklahoma City. The importance of these OTPs revolves around SAMHSA's findings that the Medication Assisted Treatment is 70-75% effective with opiate addiction, while traditional substance abuse treatment is 6-10% effective. This 8-9 times more effective treatment can often skip inpatient detox, avoiding the expense, time off from work and away from family, and the waiting list to get admitted.

Remarkable as it is that Native tribes own three of these best practice programs, one of them was selected by the Oklahoma Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs to video for their agents and other providers to learn how these programs should be run. "All three programs were designed and set up in the same fashion, operating in the same manner. You will find the same level of excellence at all three clinics," asserted Dan Cross, Executive Director, Absentee Shawnee Counseling Services, OKC. "Tribes lead the assault against this epidemic in Native America," referring to the state of Oklahoma. All three tribal programs serve both Native and Non-Native adults and accept Medicaid.

"Natives have lead the way in holistic approaches to health and environmental concerns, not as a recent development, but from their ancient ways," noted Cross. "Whether it be herbal medicine that modern medical science has replicated pharmacologically, or holistic approaches to wellbeing that our best practices emulate, Native people have

preceded modern technology," Cross observed. Now, it seems, Natives are leading the solution for this deadly wave of addiction sweeping over Oklahoma

RESOURCES:

Center for Disease Control http://www.cdc.gov/ homeandrecreationalsafety/ rxbrief/

SAMHSA Treat Improvement Protocol 43 http://www. samhsa.gov/samhsanewsletter/ volume 16 number 6/tip43.aspx

SAMHSA OTP Directory http://dpt2.samhsa.gov/treatment/directory.aspx

Absentee Shawnee Counseling Services http://ascs-okc.com

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